

Name _____

Date _____ Hour _____

Theme Analysis: Compassion *Group Activity*

A theme is a general concept or idea, such as love, justice, or sorrow. One way to help you think of themes is to complete the following sentence: "This is a book about _____."
You have studied many themes woven into the novel. Another key idea is that of compassion.

This activity gives you an opportunity to think through some important questions. Also, having time to examine your peers' responses will enable you to develop your own thoughts more fully.

Directions: Look at this issue in greater depth during this silent discussion based on everything you've read up through Chapter 27. You'll need four group members. Each of you begins by writing down an answer to one of the four topics given below. When the teacher calls "time," pass your paper to the right. Now respond to the question that the person to your left already answered; feel free to comment (constructively, not negatively) on the previous answer when providing your own answer. Continue this process until all group members have written responses to all four topics. Afterwards, take time to debrief in your group, discussing your differing viewpoints.



Silent Discussion Topics

1. What is compassion?
2. Describe two examples of compassion in the novel.
3. Describe two examples of characters lacking compassion in the novel.
4. Explain whether or not you believe compassion is important in your life today.